

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1-12. (Cancel)
13. (Original) A method for dispensing seeds and spacers comprising the steps of:
- (i) providing a loader with a body, seed magazine receiving and locating means, seed dispensing means for ejecting seeds from a seed magazine, a seed-transporting path leading to a dispensing outlet, and a spacer-transporting path leading to a dispensing outlet;
  - (ii) mounting a seed magazine containing one or more seeds in said seed transporting path and dispensing a seed through said dispensing outlet;
  - (iii) placing a spacer in said spacer transporting path; and
  - (iv) dispensing said spacer through said outlet.
14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said spacers are placed and dispensed by the method comprising:
- (i) providing said loader with a spacer magazine receiving and locating means;
  - (ii) mounting a spacer magazine containing spacers in said spacer magazine receiving and locating means;
  - (iii) ejecting a spacer into said spacer transporting path; and
  - (iv) dispensing said spacer through said dispensing outlet.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said spacers are made of a synthetic, bioabsorbable material.
16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein said spacers in said spacer magazine are sterile.
17. (Original) The loader device of claim 16, wherein said seed magazine contains seeds and said magazine and seeds are sterile and within sterile integrity packaging.
- 18-22 (Cancel)